



NEW JERSEY
WEEKLY CROP WEATHER

New Jersey
Agricultural Statistics Service

In Cooperation With:
U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Agricultural Marketing Service
U.S. Department of Commerce/N.O.A.A.
Rutgers University

NOAA WEATHER RADIO STATIONS

Allentown
WXL-39 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.40 Megahertz.
Atlantic City
KHB-38 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.40 Megahertz.
New York City
KWO-35 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 160.55 Megahertz.
Philadelphia
KIH-28 on the VHF-FM
frequency of 162.475 Megahertz.

NEW JERSEY AUCTIONS

Vineland
Phone: (856)691-0721
Sales 10:00AM Daily except Sunday.
Landisville
Phone: (856)697-2273
Direct Sales Daily
Swedesboro
Phone: (856)476-0313
Hightstown
Phone: (609)448-0193
Direct Sales Daily

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Date: July 8, 2002

RUTGERS WEEKLY FORECAST

Agricultural Weather Advisory for New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania
Issued by Rutgers University New Brunswick NJ
7 am EDT Monday, July 8, 2002

Rainfall amounts...none expected through tonight, quarter of an inch with locally higher amounts Tuesday.

Winds for spraying...southwest around 10 mph today, southwest around 10 mph tonight, southwest 10 to 20 mph Tuesday.

Relative humidity in percent...40 to 50 today, 90 to 100 tonight, 50 to 60 Tuesday.

Dew points...low 60s today, upper 60s tonight and Tuesday.

Drying conditions...very good today, fair Tuesday.

Frost freeze or dew...light dew tonight, little dew Tuesday night but wetting in early thundershowers is possible.

Percent of possible sunshine...90 today, 50 Tuesday.

There is a near zero percent probability of precipitation during the 12 hour period beginning at 8 am and ending at 8 pm that could adversely affect the performance of pesticides that require a rainfree period after application.

Hay cutting will continue good today but then with thundershowers likely Tuesday afternoon. Drier air will return on Wednesday and continue into Saturday.

Estimated soil moisture in percent of field capacity is now near 50 percent in the north and well below 50 percent in the south. Irrigation will continue with only scattered relief expected in thundershowers Tuesday.

Growing degree day totals base 50 since march first now range from over 1000 in the north to 1600 in the south. Totals continue to average well ahead of normal.

The latest 6 to 10 day outlook for the period July 13, 2002 to July 17, 2002 is calling for temperatures to average near normal and precipitation to total above normal.

Climate summary for the week ending 8am 7/8/02

Temperatures averaged much above normal. Extremes were 100 degrees at Belvidere on July 4, 2002 and 54 degrees at Charlotteburg on July 8, 2002.

Weekly rainfall averaged 0.03 inches north, 0.00 inches central, and 0.00 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 0.16 inches at Newton on July 4, 2002 to July 5, 2002.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 66 percent north, 46 percent central, and 30 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 76 degrees north, 78 degrees central, and 78 degrees south.

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING 8 AM MONDAY 7/08/02

Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures				Growing Degree Days 1/		Soil Moisture 2/
	Last Week	Since March 1		Last Week				Total	Dept.*	
		Total	Dept.*	Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*			
- Inches -				- Degrees -				- Base 50°F -		
NORTH										
Belvidere Bridge	.00	17.58	1.22	100	56	77	6	1264	248	55
Canoe Brook	.00	19.36	1.89	99	56	79	7	1364	353	61
Charlotteburg	.00	18.67	1.00	95	54	75	6	1053	249	50
Flemington	.00	20.11	3.33	95	56	76	3	1305	260	66
Long Valley	.00	17.60	-.35	90	56	73	3	1016	144	62
Newton	.16	16.71	.69	96	56	76	6	1170	277	56
CENTRAL										
Freehold	.00	15.22	-1.17	97	61	79	6	1451	308	45
Long Branch	.00	16.94	.56	98	61	80	7	1311	241	26
New Brunswick	.00	16.46	.36	98	59	79	5	1382	166	60
Pemberton	DATA NOT AVAILABLE									
Toms River	.00	17.06	.61	99	57	79	5	1434	358	22
Trenton	.00	16.93	1.79	97	60	79	4	1396	129	32
SOUTH										
A.C. Marina	.00	16.27	2.65	94	65	80	7	1460	378	18
Cape May C.H.	.01	15.96	1.49	97	62	80	6	1554	399	13
Downtown	.00	16.79	1.88	96	58	78	4	1465	183	28
Glassboro	.00	14.85	-1.18	98	62	80	6	1595	334	32
Hammonton	.00	14.50	-1.25	98	57	78	3	1488	233	18
Pomona	.00	17.53	3.29	97	63	81	8	1457	301	21
Seabrook	.00	18.31	3.93	98	61	80	5	1653	363	27
South Harrison	.00	16.98	.88	97	60	79	N/A	1561	N/A	N/A

*Departure from normal.
1/ Growing degree days since March 1, total and departure from normal or long term average.
2/ Estimated soil moisture as % of field capacity based on climate data.

AGRICULTURE

Hot and humid weather continued through last week, with temperatures reaching the upper 90's by Thursday. Smoke from wild fires near Quebec, Canada blanketed the region over the weekend, affecting air quality as far south as Washington, D.C. Outdoor activities included combining wheat, cutting and baling hay, fertilizing and spraying. Days suitable for field work averaged 7.0. Top soil moisture was rated 20% very short and 80% short. Range and pasture condition was rated 3% poor, 68% fair, and 29% good. Corn condition was rated 44% fair and 56% good. Soybeans emerged 90%. Soybean condition was rated 100% good. Dry weather conditions allowed hay producers to make good progress on their second cutting. Livestock producers reported slow growth in pastures and a decline in milk production due to the hot weather. Pickle, snap bean, fresh market tomato, and sweet corn harvest continued on schedule. Producers also made good progress harvesting parsley, cilantro and other herbs. Cantaloupe harvest was also underway in some areas. Summer potatoes were rated in mostly good condition, with harvest expected to begin in a few weeks. Blueberry harvest continued, with crop condition rated as mostly good.

SOIL MOISTURE TABLE

	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	PREVIOUS YEAR
VERY SHORT	20%	0%	0%
SHORT	80%	25%	5%
ADEQUATE	0%	72%	74%
SURPLUS	0%	3%	21%

RANGE AND PASTURE

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK	PREVIOUS YEAR
VERY POOR	0%	0%	3%
POOR	3%	0%	5%
FAIR	68%	1%	9%
GOOD	29%	93%	83%
EXCELLENT	0%	6%	0%

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR JULY 8, 2002

Blueberries – Mainly harvesting Bluecrop variety for at least the next several weeks. Quality has been excellent.

Cabbage – Green, Red, and Savoy available in quantity and quality. Volume beginning to lessen with the hotter weather.

Collards & Escarole/Endive – Good quality and decreasing quantity available now. Expect hot weather to cause lighter quantities to be available in mid-Summer. Still being planted by growers though so will be available throughout the Summer.

Cucumbers - Good quality and large quantity available.

Eggplant – Harvest began with light volume last week. Volume available in another two weeks.

Green Beans – Quality and quantity available now.

Herbs – Lighter quantities available now for Cilantro, Dill, Arugula, and Baby Arugula with hot weather stretches causing some mid-Summer light availability of these and other herbs. Some herbs though, like Basil, Mint, and Mustard like the hot weather and thrive in this kind of heat. Expect most herbs other than Arugula to be available all Summer.

Leeks - Good quality and quantity of Southern transplants being dug now so the normal short in availability from mid-June until mid-July has not occurred this year. Spring planted varieties due next week.

Napa Cabbage – Quantity and quality available now.

Peppers – Harvest began with light volume last week. Volume available in another ten days.

Pickles (Kirby cucumbers) – Good quality and large quantity available.

Shanghai Bok Choi - Quantity and quality available now.

Sweet Corn – Harvest began with minor volume of early varieties last week in South Jersey. Quality and quantity of

early varieties (6 ½" size), mainly for roadside market business, available. Quantity for supermarket buyers (8" size) beginning later this week with Argent variety. Peak of season should be around July 20th. Good wholesale availability until at least the week after Labor Day. Quantity and quality varies after that due to Fall insect pressures.

Tomatoes – Last week’s heat caused a lot of field ripening with this week’s heat expected to do the same. Field grown volume is increasing in quantity but decreasing in price only slightly so far.

Yellow Peaches - Sentry variety harvest began last week with excellent quality and good size and color. Will be available in quantity later this week. Red Haven and John Boy varieties showing good color and expected to be available in volume by third week of July.

Yellow Squash – Good quality and large quantity available.

Zucchini - Good quality and large quantity.

JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

Cantaloupes – Begin to become available later this week. Volume available in a week.

White Peaches - Early varieties become available about the 20th of July with White Lady. Quality looks very good with excellent color. Blushing Star and Sugar Giant varieties should be available by mid-August followed a few days later by Lady Nancy. Snow Giant follows a few days later about the third week of August. Newer white varieties have better handling and shelf life characteristics than older varieties. Their lower acids create a different flavor profile and increasing demand from consumers have caused growers to increase plantings and volume produced by 10% a year for the last several years.

Nectarines - Early varieties such as Eastern Glo, and then Summer Beaut, beginning next week. Mid-August is the heaviest volume time with great quantities of Red Gold and Fantasia varieties available then. Available through the end of August.

**Provided by the New Jersey State Department of Agriculture.*